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LB 456

half the states in the union already have to provide that kind of input in a systematic and regular format, and the cost is not \$50,000 as Senator Haberman says. Planning and Programming has submitted a budget. This is an opportunity for Planning and Programming to try to raise that budget by hiring two more staff people. Every bureaucracy in government would like to increase the number of people that they have. It is not necessary. The only thing that is necessary, the only fiscal impact to this proposal will be the \$5000 to provide for per diem and transportation costs for these local governmental officials, the same people we purport to speak to and listen to today but we are trying to structure it, the League of Municipalities, county officials, State School Boards Association, are all supportive of this proposal. It is brought to this Legislature not as a way to create a new governmental body but as a way to get formal and rational input on the policy that we as a Legislature have to set and the Governor proposes and administers. I think it is a reasonable proposal and one this Legislature at the very least should bring to the floor for a more thorough discussion.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Goll.

SENATOR GOLL: I call the question, Mr. President.

SPEAKER NICHOL: The question has been called for. Do I see five hands? I do. The question is, shall debate cease? All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, to cease debate.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Debate has ceased. Senator Newell, would you like to close?

SENATOR NEWELL: Mr. President and members of the body, from the discussion this morning there seems to be no greater clarity about the issue than there was in the committee, and it seems to me that the issue is not one of whether it is a good idea to have this kind of input, but the issue is, by some members is we have a national organization called this and it is large and it is bulky and it supports regional governments. The issue is not whether this is a good proposal but whether or not Policy Research which wants two more staff people should have those two staff people, so we talk about a \$50,000 budget when, in fact, it is not going to be that. It is only going to be \$5000. So I think what I might do or I might suggest is that I will introduce the bill next year instead